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In The Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A composite tool coating method for a tool service area having a tool service area thickness and tool serviceability requirements, said method comprising:

preparing said tool service area for coating, said tool service area having a beginning said tool service area thickness;

electroplating at least one layer of plate coating material to said prepared tool service area, said at least one layer of plate coating material having a plate coating thickness, said plate coating material is ~~containing~~ nickel, a plated service area thickness equaling said beginning tool service area thickness plus said plate coating thickness; and

spraying at least one layer of spray coating material to said at least one layer of plate coating material, said at least one layer of spray coating material having a spray coating thickness, a sprayed service area thickness equaling said plated service area thickness plus said spray coating thickness.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said preparing step further comprising:

cleaning said tool service area.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said preparing step further comprising:

abrading said tool service area to remove inconsistencies and reduce said tool service area thickness to said beginning tool service area thickness as needed.

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4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said electroplating step further comprising:

at least one transitional finishing step to remove inconsistencies in said at least one layer of plate coating material.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said transitional finishing step further comprising:

abrading said at least one layer of plate coating material to remove inconsistencies and reduce said plate coating thickness to achieve a desired said plated service area thickness.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said transitional finishing step further comprising:

baking said at least one layer of plate coating material.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said electroplating step further comprising:

at least one subsequent plating step to increase said plate coating thickness and achieve plate layer requirements.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said electroplating step further comprising:

at least one transitional evaluating step to inspect said tool service area and said tool service area thickness for compliance with plate layer requirements.

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9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said spraying step further comprising:

at least one transitional finishing step to remove inconsistencies in said at least one layer of spray coating material.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said transitional finishing step further comprising:

abrading said at least one layer of spray coating material to remove inconsistencies and reduce said spray coating thickness to achieve a desired said sprayed service area thickness.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said spraying step further comprising:

at least one subsequent spraying step to increase said spray coating thickness and achieve spray layer requirements.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said spraying step further comprising:

at least one transitional evaluating step to inspect said tool service area and said tool service area thickness for compliance with spray layer requirements.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

a final finishing step after said spraying step to achieve said tool serviceability requirements.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said final finishing step further comprising:

cleaning said composite tool coating to remove foreign substances and materials.

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15. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said final finishing step further comprising:

polishing said composite tool coating to remove slight inconsistencies.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said final finishing step further comprising:

evaluating said composite tool coating, said tool service area and said tool service area thickness for compliance with said tool serviceability requirements.

Claims 17-25 (Cancelled).